THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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Tuesday, the 10th March 1959.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall start with question No. 123.

Rattling of doors in Madras City.

* 123 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was rattling of doors in many buildings in the City of Madras on one or two occasions during the last two months;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that this rattling was due to the detonation of time-barred bombs;

(*c*) if so, the place where actually the detonation took place; and

(*d*) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such shocks to buildings?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) The Government have seen reports in the newspapers and received a few oral representations about the rattling of doors in many buildings in the City on some days in July and August 1958.

(*b*) & (*c*) Some of the important newspapers of Madras reported that this rattling of doors was due to the vibrations generated by the demolition of old bombs in the Satyavedu forest area about 30 to 35 miles from Madras City by the Indian Air Force Unit at Gummidipundi. The Government have ascertained from the Indian Air Force authorities at Madras that the Indian Air Force Unit at Gummidipundi had to demolish some of the 4,000 lb. bombs as these were considered highly dangerous to store due to exudation and climatic effects on the main fillings of these bombs.

(*d*) The Indian Air Force authorities have reported that there would not be any more demolition of such bombs in the Satyavedu forest. As such, the Government consider that no further action is necessary in the matter.

Regional Food Laboratories

* 124 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to start regional food laboratories in this State; and

(*b*) if so, the places where they are proposed to be located?